



The International Association of Torch Clubs encourages communication among members of varied learned professions, to meet to exchange knowledge and understanding of each other's specialization and to broaden our understanding and appreciation of other ideas and cultures.

All are invited to the Torch Club meeting of February 16th meeting where our speaker will be our own Professor Emeritus Walter Farkas who will speak on:

“Science and Government: Before and during the Bush Administration – A Synopsis of the past and present relationship between the Federal Government and the Scientific Community.”

Background:

The following priorities come from testimony before Congress

**George W. Bush Administration: FY 2007
Administration Research and Development Budget Priorities**

“In general, the Administration favors Federal R&D investments that:

- advance fundamental scientific discovery to improve future quality of life;
- address societal and environmental impacts of science and technology, including ethical, national security and homeland security issues;
- sustain specifically authorized agency missions and support the missions of other agencies through stewardship of user facilities;
- enable potentially high-payoff activities that require a Federal presence to attain long-term national goals, including national security and energy independence;
- support technological innovation to spur economic competitiveness and new job growth;
- enhance the health of our Nation's people;
- strengthen science, mathematics and engineering education and accomplishments to enable superior performance in math and science;
- ensure a scientifically literate population and a supply of qualified technical personnel commensurate with national need;
- enhance our ability to understand and respond to global environmental issues;

- maximize efficiency and effectiveness of the R&D enterprise through means such as competitive, peer-reviewed award and review processes and phase-out of programs that are only marginally productive or are not important to an agency's mission; and
- strengthen international partnerships that foster advancement of scientific frontiers and accelerate the progress of science across borders.”

Bill Clinton, Al Gore Administration
Honorable John H. Gibbons
Assistant to the President for Science and Technology
1994

“"Science in the National Interest" speaks to the need for science to be responsive to national goals while also retaining commitment to the core values that have enabled our scientific community to achieve so much. Our five broad goals for sustaining America's world leadership in science, mathematics and engineering are:

- To maintain leadership across the frontiers of scientific knowledge,
- To enhance connections between fundamental research and national goals,
- To stimulate partnerships that promote investment in fundamental science and engineering and effective use of physical, human, and financial resources;
- To produce the finest scientists and engineers for the twenty-first century,
- To raise the scientific and technological literacy of all Americans. Our action agenda for achieving these goals maps out a long-term strategy for a public/private partnership. The Administration pledges:
- To improve our investment in the short-term by examining and leveraging existing resources. We will emphasize peer-reviewed, competitively awarded research; fundamental science; R&D conducted at colleges and universities; and human resources. We will also examine the role of Federal laboratories in meeting national goals.
- To work with Congress to find mechanisms for long-term, multiyear authorization and budgeting commitments for large projects, whether conducted exclusively by American scientists or in partnerships with other countries.
- To encourage full participation of all Americans in the scientific investment and its rewards. The NSTC will produce a human resources development policy for sustaining excellence and promoting diversity in the science and technology workforce. -- To develop a new program of Presidential awards for individuals and institutions that have outstanding records in mentoring students from underrepresented groups toward significant achievement in science, mathematics, and engineering. -- To work with universities and the private sector to modernize our research infrastructure. To stimulate private sector infrastructure investments in our educational institutions, we will reevaluate the cap on tax-free bonds for such purposes and the allowances for use of facilities and equipment consistent with industrial practice.
- To facilitate the development of industry-state-local government consortia and regional alliances to bring telecommunications and other information resources to elementary and secondary schools, two and four-year colleges and universities. The National Information Infrastructure will play a central role.”

Walter's Bio - B.S. Chemistry, City College of N.Y. 1955, Ph.D. Biochemistry, Duke University, 1960, NIH Fellow in Hematology, Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons, 1963-1966, Professor Dept. of Medical Biology, U. T. Center for the Health Sciences 1966-1984, Chairman, 1982 - 1984, Professor of Comparative Medicine, U.T. College of Veterinary Medicine, 1984 - 1996. Retired, 1996.

We meet at the University of Tennessee Faculty Club at 6:00 pm for dinner and presentation. The evening concludes about 7:30 pm. Cost of the meal is \$20.00

For more information: e-mail Stephen Levy, Torch President at: slevy9665@comcast.net or call him at (865) 805-2313